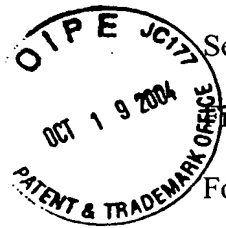


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ITW

In re patent application of

Takashi Yamane



Serial No.: 09/987,460

Group Art Unit: 2633

Filing Date: November 14, 2001

Examiner: Unknown

For: COLLECTIVE DETECTION METHOD AND DETECTION SYSTEM FOR
WAVELENGTH FLUCTUATIONS IN WAVELENGTH DIVISION
MULTIPLEXING OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM, AND
WAVELENGTH DIVISION MULTIPLEXING OPTICAL TRANSMISSION
APPARATUS EQUIPPED WITH THIS DETECTION SYSTEM

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents cited in the Japanese Office Action and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Copies of the listed documents are provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. Further, English-language Abstracts are attached to the references.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made, the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

09/987,460
Docket No.: 349932/00

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, which occurred not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean M. McGinn', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sean M. McGinn

Registration No. 34,386

Date: 10/19/04
McGinn & Gibb, PLLC
Intellectual Property Law
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. 349932/00		APPLICATION NO. 09/987,460		
				APPLICANT(S) Takashi Yamane				
				FILING DATE November 14, 2001		GROUP ART UNIT 2633		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		2000-209155	07/28/2000	Japan			ABS	
		2000-201106	07/18/2000	Japan			ABS	
		7-240737	09/12/1995	Japan			ABS	
		8-149109	06/07/1996	Japan			ABS	
		10-163971	06/19/1998	Japan			ABS	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
		Japanese Office Action dated August 3, 2004 with Partial English Translation.						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. 349932/00		APPLICATION NO. 09/987,460		
				Takashi Yamane				
				FILING November 14, 2001		GROUP ART 2633		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		2000-224114	08/11/2000	Japan			ABS	
		10-75232	03/17/1998	Japan			ABS	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.